

Message Text

SECRET

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65

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER:SKG

APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTONJR

NEA:ARDA

DOD/ISA:COL.THOMPSON (SUBS)

S/S : JLHOGANSON

----- 125419

P 172307Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 094160

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR BROWN FROM ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS PFOR LE

SUBJECT: LEBANESE ARMS REQUEST

1. LEBANESE ARMED FORCES ATTACHE KHOURY ON APRIL 7 PRE-SENTED TO DOD/ISA A REQUEST FOR ARMS FROM GENERAL HANNA SAID, AND HANDED OVER TEXT OF MESSAGE AS FOLLOWS:

A. WOULD LIKE TO ACQUIRE VERY URGENTLY THE FOLLOWING AMMU-NITION TO BE USED WITH FRENCH HOWITZER 155 MM TYPE ABS 50:

1) COMPLETE ROUND OF 155 MM WITH EXPLOSIVE SHELLS, TYPE M 107 OR MODEL 56, QTY: 3800

2) COMPLETE ROUND OF 155 MM WITH PHOSPHOROUS CHARGED SHELLS, QTY: 1,000

3) COMPLETE ROUND OF 155 MM FLARE, QTY: 200

B. COST, EVALUATED AT USDOLS 1,784,684.85 APPROXIMATELY,
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TO BE DEDUCTED FROM U.S. CREDIT OF USDOLS 10 MILLION TO THE

GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON (FY 72).

C. WITH THE BALANCE OF ABOVE-MENTIONED CREDIT (FY 72),
PURCHASE U.S. RIFLES M16 CAL 5.56 MM EQUIPPED WITH GRENADE
LAUNCHERS.

D. USE YOUR GOOD OFFICES TO INSIST FOR THE IMMEDIATE
SHIPMENT OF ABOVE MATERIEL TO PORT OF JOUNIEH EVEN IF THEY
HAVE TO BE TAKEN FROM THE STOCK OF THE U.S. ARMY.
SHIPMENT BY AIR TO AN AMERICAN BASE IN ORIENTAL MEDITER-
RANEAN AND BY SEA FROM THAT BASE TO JOUNIEH WOULD BE MOST
CONVENIENT.

E. KEEP US INFORMED REGULARLY OF THE RESULTS OF YOUR
STEPS AND EFFORTS AS OF TOMORROW 4/6/76. GENERAL HANNA
SAID

2. DOD/ISA TOLD HIM THAT DEFENSE COULD NOT ACT ON THE
REQUEST BECAUSE IT WOULD HAVE TO BE PRESENTED IN REGULAR
DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT (OR EMBASSY
BEIRUT) AS A FORMAL REQUEST OF THE GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON.

3. ATTACHE INDICATED THAT HE EXPECTED THAT KIND OF ANSWER
AND UNDERSTOOD USG POSITION.

4. NO FURTHER APPROACH HAS BEEN MADE TO DOD OR STATE
DEPARTMENT. ROBINSON

SECRET

NNN

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